



What Makes Garner Great?

Here are a few of the things that make Garner one of North Carolina's—and America's—best towns:

STRONG SCHOOLS

Students can take advantage of a rigorous K-12 international baccalaureate (IB) program in Garner. Garner Magnet High School, which offers the IB program, has been recognized three consecutive years as one of the United States' top high schools by U.S. News & World Report.

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

Garner has a thriving local arts scene. American Idol winner and country music star Scotty McCreery got his start in Garner, and several Miss North Carolinas have honed their talents here as well. The Garner Performing Arts Center is home to an award-winning community theater group and hosts top Broadway talent and other national performers. Garner's Independence Day celebration features a free concert by the North Carolina Symphony. The visual arts are valued too. The new Garner Veterans Memorial includes earthcast sculptures by internationally renowned artist Thomas Sayre.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Garner is committed to safeguarding its natural resources. There are over 160 acres of protected open space in the heart of town at Lake Benson and White Deer parks, plus the adjoining 364-acre Lake Benson. The area provides such pristine wildlife habitat that White Deer Park is used as a site to release rescued owls and raptors back into the wild.

The U.S. Green Building Council awarded White Deer Park's Nature Center LEED gold certification because of its environmentally friendly design and construction features. The center's year-round educational programming promotes a culture where citizens can make environmentally responsible decisions in their everyday lives.

HEALTHY LIVING OPTIONS

It's no wonder Garner is a 2014 Playful City USA designee. Garner's parks, neighborhoods and schools are connected by an extensive network of trails, greenways and sidewalks, enabling citizens to safely walk, run and bicycle all over town. The Garner Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, which has won numerous statewide awards in recent years, offers a multitude of affordable recreational programs year round for citizens of all ages.

GARNER: A GREAT PLACE TO BE

Superior amenities, close proximity to Raleigh and a strong community spirit make this All-America City one of the best places in North Carolina.

GARNER'S outstanding quality of life is no longer the best-kept secret in the Research Triangle.

The National Civic League selected Garner as an All-America City in June 2013, while national real-estate broker Movoto named it one of the top five cities or towns in North Carolina in the fall of that year. Movoto has also designated Garner one of the state's most affordable places.

With its great parks, vibrant cultural arts scene and nationally recognized schools, it's no surprise that Garner is receiving these coveted accolades.

And Garner's appeal is only enhanced by its enviable location—30 minutes from Raleigh-Durham International Airport and just 10 minutes from downtown Raleigh, North Carolina's hip capital city. Raleigh

boasts great restaurants, performing arts venues and special events throughout the year. It consistently ranks at or near the top of lists of U.S. cities for quality of life, business environment and job opportunities. Raleigh is home to North Carolina State University, whose campus is only 15 minutes from Garner.



You can follow Garner on Twitter (@TownofGarner) and Facebook (facebook.com/TownofGarner).

But what makes Garner's quality of life so special is its people. The All-America City Award the town earned in 2013 highlighted this by recognizing the work citizens have done in recent years to promote the arts, honor our veterans and provide opportunities to young people.

Garner also thrives because the town's business community and municipal government partner with citizens to do great things. Once you've explored our town, you're sure to agree that Garner is a great place to live, work and locate your company.